



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5267**

January Session, 2009

\* \_\_\_\_\_ HB05267ENV \_\_\_\_\_ 032009 \_\_\_\_\_ \*

**AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF SMALL TOWN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUNDS TO CONVERT PRIME FARMLAND TO NONAGRICULTURAL USE.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 4-66g of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2009*):

4 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the  
5 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the  
6 Office of Policy and Management for a small town economic assistance  
7 program the purpose of which shall be to provide grants-in-aid to any  
8 municipality that is not economically distressed within the meaning of  
9 subsection (b) of section 32-9p, does not have an urban center in any  
10 plan adopted by the General Assembly pursuant to section 16a-30 and  
11 is not a public investment community within the meaning of  
12 subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of section 7-545. Such grants shall be  
13 used for purposes for which funds would be available under section 4-  
14 66c. No municipality may receive more than five hundred thousand  
15 dollars in any one fiscal year under said program. No such grant shall  
16 be awarded for a project that converts prime farmland, as defined in  
17 section 22-26bb, to nonagricultural use. Notwithstanding the  
18 provisions of this subsection and section 4-66c, a municipality that is  
19 (1) a distressed municipality within the meaning of subsection (b) of

20 section 32-9p or a public investment community within the meaning of  
 21 subdivision (9) of subsection (a) of section 7-545, and (2) otherwise  
 22 eligible under this subsection for the small town economic assistance  
 23 program may elect to be eligible for said program in lieu of being  
 24 eligible for financial assistance under section 4-66c, by a vote of its  
 25 legislative body or, in the case of a municipality in which the  
 26 legislative body is a town meeting, its board of selectmen, and  
 27 submitting a written notice of such vote to the Secretary of the Office  
 28 of Policy and Management. Any such election shall be for the four-year  
 29 period following submission of such notice to the secretary and may be  
 30 extended for additional four-year periods in accordance with the same  
 31 procedure for the initial election.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	4-66g(b)
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**ENV**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*